

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 1. (currently amended) A data input method comprising:
2 in a mark-up language-based browser, generating and displaying on a display
3 screen a graphical input device, the graphical input device being associated with a user-
4 selectable parameter and having a displayed data entry field of a first display width;
5 associating a set of user-dependent choices with the graphical input device;
6 sensing user selection of the graphical input device;
7 upon sensing user selection of the graphical input device, displaying on the
8 screen a list of the user-dependent choices, the list having a second display width;
9 sensing selection by a user of one of the user-dependent choices; and
10 displaying at least a portion of the selected user-dependent choice in the data
11 entry field and setting the user-selectable parameter to the selected user-dependent
12 choice; and

13 in which:

14 automatically choosing the second display width ~~is chosen~~ as a function of the
15 display widths of the user-dependent choices, such that the second display width ~~may~~
16 ~~be greater than~~ is expandable relative to the first display width.

1 2. (original) A method as in claim 1, further including the following steps:
2 downloading, from a server, into a local computer, code for controlling display on
3 the display screen;
4 executing the downloaded code using a browser, the downloaded code being in
5 a mark-up language; and
6 generating the graphical input device by executing scripting that is embedded
7 within the downloaded code.

1 3. (original) A method as in claim 2, in which the mark-up language is selected
2 from the group consisting of HTML and its derivatives.

1 4. (original) A method as in claim 1, in which the step of generating and
2 displaying the graphical input device includes the sub-step of generating the graphical
3 input device as a non-menu, text-input graphic device but having the appearance of a
4 drop-down menu.

1 5. (currently amended) A data input method comprising:
2 downloading, from a server, into a local computer, code for controlling a display
3 on a display screen;
4 executing the downloaded code using a mark-up language-based browser;
5 by executing a subroutine that is embedded within the downloaded code,
6 generating and displaying on the display screen a graphical input device, the graphical
7 input device being associated with a user-selectable parameter and having a displayed
8 data entry field of a first display width;
9 associating a set of user-dependent choices with the graphical input device;
10 sensing user selection of the graphical input device;
11 upon sensing user selection of the graphical input device, displaying on the
12 screen a list of the user-dependent choices, the list having a second display width;
13 sensing selection by a user of one of the user-dependent choices; and
14 displaying at least a portion of the selected user-dependent choice in the data
15 entry field and setting the user-selectable parameter to the selected user-dependent
16 choice; and
17 in which:
18 automatically choosing the second display width is chosen as a function of the
19 display widths of the user-dependent choices, such that the second display width may
20 be greater than is expandable relative to the first display width.
21 in which:
22 the downloaded code is in a mark-up language;
23 the subroutine is scripting embedded within the downloaded code; and
24 the step of generating and displaying the graphical input device includes the sub-
25 step of generating the graphical input device as a non-menu, text-input graphic device
26 but having the appearance of a drop-down menu.

1 6. (currently amended) In a computer system that receives web content
2 expressed in a version or derivative of the hypertext mark-up language HTML and
3 executes the HTML-expressed content in a browser to control a display and to receive
4 input data from a user via a graphical user interface, a data input method comprising:

5 in a mark-up language-based browser, generating and displaying on a display
6 screen a graphical input device by executing a corresponding HTML routine in the
7 browser, the graphical input device being associated with a user-selectable parameter;

8 associating a set of user-dependent choices with the graphical input device;

9 embedding a non-HTML script within the HTML routine;

10 sensing user selection of the graphical input device;

11 upon sensing user selection of the graphical input device, displaying on the
12 screen a list of the user-dependent choices, each user-dependent choice comprising a
13 respective set of sequentially ordered characters;

14 associating with the list at least first and second key press events (KPE), the first
15 KPE indicating completion of user selection of one of the user-dependent choices, the
16 second KPE indicating user entry of any of the characters;

17 upon sensing any first KPE, rendering the list invisible on the display screen and
18 executing a first portion of the non-HTML script to assign a currently selected one of the
19 user-dependent choices to be the value of the user-selectable parameter;

20 upon sensing a first occurrence of any second KPE, executing a second portion
21 of the non-HTML script, and searching and marking for the user a first one of the user-
22 dependent choices whose first character matches the user-entered character
23 constituting the sensed second KPE;

24 as long as second KPEs are sensed, and until any first KPE is sensed, upon
25 sensing an n'th occurrence of any second KPE, searching and marking for the user a
26 first one of the selectable data entries whose characters match the first through n'th
27 user-entered characters constituting the first through n'th occurrence of second KPEs.

1 7. (original) A method as in 6, in which the step of and searching and marking
2 the first one of the user-dependent choices whose first character matches the user-
3 entered character constituting the sensed second KPE comprises searching the user-
4 dependent choices beginning to right of a delimiting character.